

Pre-proposal Conference questions:

June 15, 2007

How do we spend money when we don't get all the money up front?

Unfortunately you have to carry for a short time. We reimburse funds spent, not committed.

Does the commission pay immediately upon receiving our FSR form C108, or do we have to wait for it to be audited before a reimbursement is distributed?

Progress reports will help speed up final payments disbursed. Final on-site audits could affect your final payment, but we need to make sure these funds are being spent appropriately throughout the grant cycle and therefore supporting documentation is audited prior to payment disbursements (Low Income Energy Efficiency Grants)

Are loans considered In-Kind?

No, your In-Kind funds are your internal funds to be spent throughout the grant period proportionately with the grant funds. All other funds need to be fronted by the grantee until reimbursements. Reimbursement delays should not be an issue with the progress reports being submitted regularly and on time. We do reserve the right to an on-site audit before final payment is disbursed.

Can In-Kind be provided by a donor?

Yes

If a manufacturer or vendor offers a discount on the basis of this grant, can that be considered In-Kind?

No.

Are finance charges considered In-Kind?

No.

Does the State have a stipulated percentage for Indirect? No

What is considered low income?

We ask the grantees to provide us with their criteria.

How do we calculate indirect costs?

If a grantee decides they want to put indirect costs into their budget, it is their prerogative to decide the amount needed and calculate that percentage based on all expense line items under the MPSC share to the third decimal point.

Would a computer program be classified under indirect?

No, if an item has a specific amount it needs to be placed in a specific line item.

What is the difference between Assistance and Efficiency? Do they interact?

Assistance under this RFP is to be used to provide assistance to Michigan low-income residential customers in paying household energy bills. Energy Efficiency under this RFP is to be used to improve the energy efficiency and/or reduce the energy consumption and expenditures for Michigan low-income residents. Currently proposals for low income assistance and low income efficiency do not interact.

Can a RFP contain 2 contractors, or can a RFP subcontract another grantee for education?

There can only be one organization, one FIN, and one contact person. An organization can only submit one proposal. If an organization wants to work with another organization they have to put out a competitive bid.

How do we handle changes in the budget?

Contact your Grant Administrator for any changes big or small.

If the progress reports/interim reports are due on the first of the month, what happens if it falls on a holiday?

The first working day of the month is sufficient.

If we do not receive the amount we are requesting, does our budget have to be reduced proportionately line by line?

You will most likely have to revise your proposal and budget for the amount you are awarded. Reduction considerations will be worked out between the State and the grantee. New line items will not be allowed to be added.

How are energy savings determined? How do we develop the formula?

The grantee has to develop the formula for savings.

Please clarify what benefits will be allowed.

Submit what you feel your justifiable costs are and we will evaluate.

In past experience it has been determined that a budget could be developed and priced out as X number of dollars per household. Would this be allowed?

Please follow the recommended format.

Can we receive the point by point evaluations after selection process?

Under the Freedom of Information Act an organization may receive their evaluation.

Is it possible to request the audience of a presentation?

No.

What is considered an eligible entity besides non-profit, private organization, or public organization?

No individuals will be allowed to submit RFP's, organizations only.